

MAYOR'S ADVISORY GROUP
JUNE 21, 2005

MINUTES

Members Present

Joseph Donaldson, Mayor
Stephanie McKinney
David Camacho
Renee Fauset
Lee Treece
Dana Russell
Mitch Strohman
Judy Boyer

Members Absent

Grover Decker
Kapri Saunders
Stephanie Ludwig
H.E. Gene Westerhaus-excused
Joanne Keene
Nat White-excused
Julie Pastrick
Karl Baumgartner
Coral Evans-Randall
Tara Green

Guests Present

Staff Present

Dave Wilcox, City Manager
Laura Parker

Stephanie McKinney, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:50 a.m.

A motion was made by Mitch Strohman to approve the minutes from the May 17, 2005 meeting. Motion seconded by Judy Boyer. Motion carried unanimously.

Stephanie welcomed group and introduced the information to be presented at the meeting. She then turned the time over to David Camacho to lead the discussion.

David stated he was speaking personally and not for the group. David stated that he has heard some interesting presentations while serving on the Mayor's Advisory Group, however, he wonders why we are listening to presentations—how do they link up with the purpose of the group. Mayor Donaldson stated that when he was elected, he reached out and invited persons not usually active in government to give them an opportunity to share their views. Mayor wanted to hear the issues of these people, and what types of things are going on in the city that the Mayor may or may not be aware of. Mayor stated that this information has helped him make decisions for the good of the community. Mayor handed out copies of the weekly report for the members to view. Weekly report is on the City of Flagstaff's website, and has a lot of pertinent information. Gives information as to what is upcoming in the city, boards & commissions, what departments/divisions are doing, etc. Mayor stated that these are the reasons he formed the Mayor's Advisory group.

Discussion was held on the information presented.

David stated that he had made two observations that the group is comprised of “institutional” representatives as well as individuals reflecting private views. David believes that the group should be issue driven, and stated that while some information has left him thinking “good information”, he wants to know what we do with it, and how do we get to the next step.

Discussion was held on the information presented, and questions answered.

Mitch Strohman stated he has been in the group for approximately one year and has noticed the group spends most of the time receiving information. This leaves a small amount of time to discuss the information being presented. Might want to consider having more discussion on issues to get a feel of how the group feels about a particular issue. Mentioned it might be helpful to define issues and have staff and individuals available to answer questions instead of doing a presentation. Stephanie McKinney mentioned that there might be a way to hit a happy medium, either get information before the meeting and be ready to discuss, or have shorter presentations leaving time to discuss.

Lee Treece mentioned that the presentations might only need to be about 30 minutes or so, which would leave time for discussions after the presentation.

Dave Wilcox suggested that the presentations could be kept brief, no power point presentations.

Judy Boyer stated that she would like to hold meetings with the residents at the properties she oversees and bring information back to the group. She stated that there are approximately 2,000 residents in the apartments. She is concerned that Flagstaff is losing youth to other cities due to higher paying jobs, education, etc.

Renee Fauset stated that she often takes information she receives in the Mayor’s Advisory group and shares with other groups/individuals.

Discussion was held on presentations –vs- discussions.

Lee Treece stated that he feels it is good to have outside presenters, sends a message to them that the group is interested in what they are doing and what is going on.

Discussion was held on upcoming issues that could be brought up in the next few meetings, 3-4 months. Issues included: limit of community to support Economic Development, what is retail capacity in this community? How far will the City of Flagstaff go—what boundaries are there? Mitch would like to hear discussion on quiet zones and sales tax.

Dave Wilcox stated there might not be a lot of information to discuss quiet zones. Sales tax discussion would center around areas in the city that are not taxed.

Mayor Donaldson mentioned the issue of the city’s relationship with the YMCA. Stephanie McKinney stated she is hearing discussions on why is the city and the Y both doing an aquatic center? Might be a good issue to discuss. Discussion was held on various ideas for topics to discuss.

Upcoming Meeting Topics:

Topic for July:

- Topic will focus on the YMCA issue. Melissa Bowen from YMCA will be invited to speak and City recreation staff will be invited to discuss the city portion.

Dave Wilcox will instruct Jim Wine to follow up on inviting YMCA and city staff. Mitch Strohman will lead the discussion.

Discussion was held on having the Council be informed of what the Mayor's group is doing, as well as the public. Minutes from the upcoming meetings will be emailed to the City Council and placed on the City's website.

Meeting adjourned. 8:12 a.m.